

OFFICE OF CIVILIAN DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

CIVIL AIR PATROL

OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM)
NO. 8)

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 8, 1942

USE OF CHAMOIS CLOTH FOR STRAINING GASOLINE

1. The Safety Bureau of the Civil Aeronautics Board has prepared for the Civil Air Patrol the following comments on the use of chamois cloth for straining gasoline.

Chamois is probably one of the best materials for straining gasoline, however, its properties are such that static electricity develops to an extent sufficient to consider it a definite hazard unless proper precautions are taken.

Under the now prevailing airport conditions it is imperative that fuel be strained at the tank, a strainer within the pump unit not being sufficient. In order to accomplish this without introducing a fire hazard, proper equipment should be used in all cases. Any metal strainer such as the Purolator is not conducive to static discharges, however, most of such strainers are not as efficient as chamois. The use of a chamois is recommended only when the complete fueling system is properly grounded.

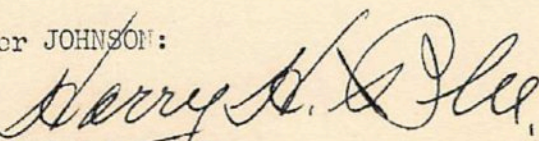
It should be noted that the static discharge usually occurs between the chamois and the fuel at the time the fuel hose is being removed from the fuel tank, therefore the following precautions should be carefully observed:

1. The chamois cloth should be securely attached to the funnel.
2. The funnel should have a good fit with the fuel tank.
3. The funnel should be kept at all times grounded to the fuel hose nozzle by appropriate wire preferably at more than one point on the funnel.
4. The funnel should have at least one **grounding** lead with battery clips to be attached to the fuel tank or other appropriate metal part of the airplane before fueling takes place. This connection should be maintained until after the funnel is removed from the tank.

It is believed that if the above or equivalent steps are taken there need be no cause for anxiety insofar as the chamois cloth is concerned.

2. The foregoing comments are presented for the information and guidance of all units of the Civil Air Patrol.

By direction of National Commander JOHNSON:


HARRY H. BLEE
Colonel, Air Corps
Operations Officer